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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/587,111 06/02/00 CURTIS R MNI-062CP2DV

000959
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD
28 STATE STREET
BOSTON MA 02109

HM22/0906

EXAMINER

ULM, J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1646

7

DATE MAILED:

09/06/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trad marks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/587,111

Applicant(s)
Curtis

Examiner
John Ulm

Art Unit
1646



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 1-26 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 20) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 1646

Claims 1 to 26 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1 to 4, 10, 11, 21, 24 and 25 have been amended as requested by Applicant in Paper Number 4, filed 02 June of 2000.

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1 to 9, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid encoding SEQ ID NO:5 and a method of use, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.
- II. Claims 10 to 12 and 23, drawn to an isolated polypeptide and method of use, classified in class 530, subclass 350.
- III. Claim 13, drawn to an antibody, classified in class 530, subclass 388.22.
- IV. Claims 14 to 16, drawn to a compound of unspecified constitution and process of using, classification undeterminable.
- V. Claims 17 to 19, drawn to a nucleic acid probe and method of use, classified in class 435, subclass 6.
- VI. Claims 20 and 21, drawn to a binding assay employing an isolated receptor protein or a cell expressing a receptor protein, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- VII. Claims 22 and 24 to 26, drawn to a method of treatment by administering a compound of unspecified constitution, classification undeterminable.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because:

The nucleic acid of invention I, the polypeptide of invention II, the antibody of invention III, the "compound which selectively binds" of invention IV, the nucleic acid probe of invention V and the "modulator" of invention VII are six different chemical compounds each of which can be

Art Unit: 1646

made and used without any of the others. Distinctness is shown by the fact that these six different compounds lack a common utility which is based upon a substantial structural similarity which is disclosed as the basis for that common utility.

Inventions II and VI are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the binding assay, as claimed, can be practiced with a cell which naturally expresses a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5 and, therefore, does not require the "isolated" polypeptide of invention II.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John D. Ulm whose telephone number is (703) 308-4008. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvonne Eyler can be reached at (703) 308-6564.


Official papers filed by fax should be directed to (703) 308-4242 or (703) 872-9306. Official responses under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 should be directed to (703) 872-9307.

Application/Control Number: 09/587,111

Page 4

Art Unit: 1646

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. ULM', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

JOHN ULM
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1800